

# Holiday video greetings team visits UK bases

By Staff Sgt. Jody Clor  
100th Air Refueling Wing public affairs

The holidays are fast approaching.

With their arrival comes the chance for active duty military, family members and Department of Defense civilians to send video greetings back home to U.S. television stations.

A three-person Army Air Force Hometown News video team will visit England's bases Oct. 8 through 10. The agency provides people serving overseas the opportunity to send Christmas and Hanukkah holiday greetings to their loved ones.

According to Hometown News officials, this program was developed for eligible members and their families who will not be home for the holidays. Those who make a permanent change of station or exit the service prior to the holidays or who will be home on leave for the holidays are not eligible for the program.

All military members taping a greeting must be in the uniform of the day, but can elect to wear their class A uniform.

Those wishing to participate should bring their hometown address books with them. Members can send messages back to bonafide family members in the States. Fiancees are not accepted as next-of-kin on the release form. Anyone can be spoken to on the taped message, but the release form must have a

relative listed for notification and release.

Locations, dates, times and places of taping are:

**RAF Lakenheath** - Oct. 9 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Liberty Club.

**RAF Mildenhall** - Oct. 8 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the gazebo next to the Bob Hope Community Center.

**RAF Croughton** - Oct. 10 from 8 a.m. to noon at the All Ranks Club.

**RAF Alconbury** - Oct. 10 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the base chapel.

Due to time constraints, the team can't make additional trips to RAFs Fairford, Molesworth or Upwood; however, people from these bases are encouraged to tape their greetings at the nearest location. In fact, those stationed anywhere in the United Kingdom who are eligible to participate are welcome at any of the taping locations, regardless of their assigned base.

In the taped greeting, participants must tell who they are, where they're stationed, who the message is going to and where the relatives live. The greetings should be 10 to 15 seconds long.

For more information on the television greetings or to schedule an appointment here, call SrA. Lisa Krebs at Ext. 5641. Call Ext. 89-4018 for RAF Mildenhall; Tech. Sgt. Phil Berube at DSN 268-2323 for RAF Alconbury; and Pam Robbins at DSN 236-8426 for RAF Croughton.

## People first:

## Officials discuss retirement, separation moves

**Question:** I understand I'm authorized to make one final move at government expense once I separate or retire. How long do I have, and is it possible to extend this time frame?

**Answer:** Separating Air Force members are authorized a final move at government expense to their home of record, or to a location no farther than their home of record, within six months following their date of separation, unless an extension is granted. However, members separating under the voluntary separation incentive or special separation bonus programs are authorized one year from their separation date to move, unless an extension is granted.

Retirees are authorized a move to their home of selection within one year following their date of retirement, unless an extension is granted. Retirees may select a home of selection location anywhere in the continental United States or an overseas location if that is the place from which they entered the service.

Air Force officials recognize that sometimes unexpected things happen following separation or retirement that preclude a member from making the final move within the established time frame. Extensions to the home of record or home of selection entitlement can be granted if:

❑ The member is hospitalized or undergoing medical treatment during the period of the entitlement.

❑ The member is enrolled in an education or training program for the purpose of ob-

taining post-separation or retirement employment.

Extensions can also be granted in other deserving cases.

The other deserving cases category includes unforeseen events that prevent a move within the established time frame. Some examples are death or terminal illness in the immediate family, an unsuccessful job search, and legal and administrative proceedings. Proper documentation must be provided to support any extension request.

Congress intended for the final move entitlement to be related to separation and retirement, therefore, there is a six-month and one-year limitations. The rules governing extending these entitlements are very strict.

Planning ahead, in the vast majority of cases, will help ensure a successful move and afford members the opportunity to take full advantage of all authorized entitlements. For more information on retirement or separation moves, contact your transportation management office.

**Question:** With all the talk about realistic career expectations, where can I get information on the best possible career path for my specific Air Force specialty?

**Answer:** Publication of the enlisted career path will be handled differently than officers. The Air Force enlisted career path will be incorporated into Career Field Education and Training Plans, or CFETPs, for each career field. The career path outlines ex-

pected times for promotion, training requirements, re-enlistment and retraining programs – all the milestones that make a successful enlisted career. Although the career path is not Air Force specialty specific, functional managers may choose to include career field specific career paths in the CFETP. Updates to CFETPs are currently under way.

The Officer Professional Development Guide (Air Force Pamphlet 36-2630) has been approved and is currently being printed. This pamphlet is designed for commanders, supervisors, and active-duty officers. The guide provides a general map for officers to study. It points out that successful officers travel a path that develops them personally and professionally through an ever-continuous process of self-study, formal education, training and experience. The pamphlet begins with an introduction giving overall Air Force officer career expectations and continues with sections on each major career field. The Officer Professional Development Guide is available on the Air Force Personnel Center home page at <http://www.afpc.af.mil/> under military/civilian jobs.

Civilian career paths will remain largely unchanged. The career paths for each of the 19 career programs are currently available in the Air Force Civilian Career Planning Manual (AFM 36-606). The manual is currently undergoing revisions to incorporate a leadership development path. Expect to see these changes this fall.

*Information provided by Air Force Personnel Center*